

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will receive \$1.4 billion from the Recovery Act. Funding is being targeted to improve medical



facilities and national cemeteries, provide grants to assist states in acquiring or constructing state nursing homes and domiciliaries, and to remodel, modify or alter existing facilities to care for Veterans. Funds will also be used to hire and train temporary claims processors, and to pursue needed information technology initiatives.

More information about VA plans can be found by visiting [www.va.gov/recovery](http://www.va.gov/recovery) , or by [clicking here](#)

### VA Programs Receiving Funding

#### **\$250 One-Time Payments: \$700 million**

**Description:** To be eligible for the \$250 payment, VA beneficiaries must have received compensation, pension, dependency and indemnity compensation, or spina bifida benefits at any time between November 2008 and January 2009. Also, beneficiaries must reside within the United States or Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. The law allows only one \$250 payment per individual. VA beneficiaries who also receive benefits from the Social Security Administration or Railroad Retirement Board will be paid through those agencies, and will therefore not receive the payment from the VA. The VA estimates \$700 million in payments will be made, with payments beginning in June 2009.

**How to apply:** No application is necessary. VA will use its existing payment records to

determine eligibility to the \$250 payment. Beneficiaries will receive their payments in the same way (either by direct deposit or mail) they receive their monthly VA benefits.

**National Cemetery Administration: \$50 million**

**Description:** The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides \$50 million to the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). Funding has been allocated to the following activities: (1) national shrine projects to raise, realign, and clean headstones/markers and repair sunken graves at various locations across the country; (2) projects that conserve energy and water through the use of wind turbines, solar power and other measures; (3) repairs to historic monuments and memorials at national cemeteries; (4) projects for repairing roads, buildings, and other cemetery infrastructure at locations nationwide; and (5) equipment purchases for cemetery operations.

**Type of funding:** Agency Plans

**How to apply:** These projects have been selected by the VA. For more information, visit [www.va.gov/recovery](http://www.va.gov/recovery)

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**Information Technology Upgrades: \$50 million**

**Description:** This money will be used for a variety of IT updates, including infrastructure investments, training, support, and staff.

**Type of funding:** Agency Plans

**How to apply:** These projects have been selected by the VA. For more information, visit [www.va.gov/recovery](http://www.va.gov/recovery)

**Non-Recurring Maintenance: \$1 billion**

**Description:** These funds will go towards projects at VA facilities across the country, including at Ft. Snellin g.

**Type of funding:** Agency Plans

**How to apply:** These projects have been selected by the VA. For more information, visit [www](http://www)

[.va.gov/recovery](https://www.va.gov/recovery)

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## State Extended Care Facilities

**Description:** These grants are going towards construction, upgrades, and renovations at VA facilities across the country.

**Type of funding:** Agency Plans

**How to apply:** These projects have been selected by the VA. For more information, visit [www](https://www.va.gov/recovery)  
[.va.gov/recovery](https://www.va.gov/recovery)

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